



CALTRANS COMMUTER ALERT

Date: Thursday, May 24, 2012
District: District 6 – Fresno, Kern, Madera, Kings and Tulare
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIAN BARRIER PROJECT ON STATE ROUTE 99 NEAR CHOWCHILLA BEGINS NEXT WEEK

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in partnership with Midstate Barrier Inc. announces a Thrie Beam Safety Barrier construction project will begin next week along 4.4 miles of State Route (SR) 99 near Chowchilla in Madera County.

Construction is scheduled to begin next Tuesday, May 29th within the project limits from the Avenue 24 overcrossing to the Le Grande Avenue Overcrossing. This construction project will remain active on SR99 throughout the summer season as weather permits and is anticipated to be completed by August 2012.

This \$1.4 million improvement project funded by the State Highway Operational and Protection Program (SHOPP) will require construction crews to close inside shoulders along SR 99 for initial pruning operations taking place within the median during the day.

In order to minimize traffic impacts to commuters, the majority of the work will occur during the evening hours beginning at 6:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. each morning, Monday-Friday, however, for the safety of construction personnel, night work will require the closure of the inside shoulder lane and the #1 (fast) lane.

Night time closures will require motorists to merge into the # 2 lane (closest to the outside shoulder) throughout the duration of this construction project to accommodate the installation of these safety barriers. The public is reminded to please observe all construction merge signage, reduced speeds (55mph) and watch for personnel and equipment at all times throughout the project limits.

Caltrans and Midstate Barrier, Inc. thank the motoring public for their patience during this improvement project. Motorists are reminded to drive with extra care while traveling through all construction and maintenance areas and please **“Slow for the Cone Zone” at all times.**

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